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Press Release

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U.S. Ambassador Kenney in Chiang Mai: Tours Nong Hoy Royal Development Center In Mon Jaem, Sees Northern Thailand's Economic Developments in Tourism and Agriculture

(April 4) U.S. Ambassador Kristie Kenney made her fifth visit to Chiang Mai to tour the Nong Hoy Royal Development Center in Mon Jaem, a Chiang Mai tourist attraction and one of the largest producers of vegetables for the Royal Project Marketing Division.

Witnessing the Royal Project's successful contribution to improving local economic, social and environmental conditions, Ambassador Kenney met with the Royal Project Foundation Chairman, His Serene Highness Prince Bhisatej Rajani, and visited the Project's research center and agricultural grounds.

Ambassador Kenney was impressed by the Royal Project's historic role in reducing opium cultivation in Northern Thailand, and she noted the longstanding and fruitful cooperation between the Royal Project and the U.S. Government.

The Ambassador also highlighted Northern Thailand's economic development and its progress in developing a creative economy. While visiting AegisTek Corporation Ltd., an American-Thai-Singaporean joint venture, Ambassador Kenney observed the manufacturing of computer racks made primarily for export to the U.S. market. AegisTek has created nearly 400 jobs in the greater Chiang Mai area. Ambassador Kenney noted Chiang Mai's attractiveness to IT businesses and hopes to use this as a basis for even stronger U.S.-Thai business links in the future.

Ambassador Kenney ended her visit to Chiang Mai with visits to Public Relations Department Region 3 and Click Radio Chiang Mai 102.5 FM, Chiang Mai's newest radio station. She noted that April is an active month for outreach events for the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and the U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai. Both are working closely with local partners to support an EducationUSA Fair, and a U.S. Culinary Art Program with world-renowned Thai-American Chef Tommy Tang. In addition, the U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai will organize activities for Earth Day (April 22th), and World Intellectual Property Day (April 26th).

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